BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order Against:

ALEX WILLIAMS 1010 Pacific Ave, Apt. 610 Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Registered Nurse License No. 524009

Respondent

Case No. 2012-344

OAH No. 2011120971

STIPULATED SURRENDER OF LICENSE AND ORDER

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

IT IS SO ORDERED October 26, 2012.

This Decision shall become effective on October 26, 2012.

Louise M. Bailey M. Ed, RN

Louise R. Bailey, M.ED., R.N. Executive Officer FOR THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 2 In the Matter of the Stipulated Settlement and Case No. 2012-344 3 Disciplinary Order Against: OAH No. 2011120971 4 ALEX WILLIAMS STIPULATED SURRENDER OF 1010 Pacific Ave, Apt 610 5 Santa Cruz, CA 95060 LICENSE AND ORDER 6 Registered Nurse License No. 524009 7 Respondent. 8 9 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties that 10 the following matters are true: 11 **PARTIES** 12 Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., R.N. (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of 1. 13 the Board of Registered Nursing, who brought this action solely in her official capacity. 14 Alex Williams is representing himself in this proceeding and has chosen 2. 15 not to exercise his right to be represented by counsel. 16 3. On or about July 23, 1996, the Board issued Registered Nurse License 17 No. 524009 to Alex Williams. The Registered Nurse License was in full force and effect at all 18 times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 2012-344, and will expire on September 19 30, 2013, unless renewed. 20 JURISDICTION 21 On August 24, 2012, the Board of Registered Nursing adopted Stipulated 22 Settlement and Disciplinary Order No. 2012-344, which became effective on September 21, 23 2012. The Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order require, inter alia, the respondent to 24 serve a 3-year probation term that includes Probation Conditions # 1-20. The Stipulated 25 Settlement and Disciplinary Order is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

13 states,

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At all times after the effective date of Respondent's probation, Condition

"License Surrender. During Respondent's term of probation, if she ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the conditions of probation, Respondent may surrender her license to the Board. The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances, without further hearing. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license and wall certificate, Respondent will no longer be subject to the conditions of probation.

Surrender of Respondent's license shall be considered a disciplinary action and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board. A registered nurse whose license has been surrendered may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than the following minimum periods from the effective date of the disciplinary decision:

- (1) Two years for reinstatement of a license that was surrendered for any reason other than a mental or physical illness; or
- (2) One year for a license surrendered for a mental or physical illness."

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- Respondent has carefully read and understands Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order No. 2012-344, Respondent has carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order and understands that this Stipulated Surrender, if accepted by the Board, is considered as formal discipline of her license.
- 7. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the Board to accept the surrender of his Registered Nurse License without further process.

CONTINGENCY

8. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Registered Nursing. The Respondent understands and agrees that by signing this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to

the date it becomes effective. If the Board declines to accept this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

- 9. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 10. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 11. In consideration of the foregoing stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Order:

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. 524009, issued to Respondent Alex Williams is surrendered and the surrender is accepted by the Board of Registered Nursing.

- 12. The surrender of Respondent's Registered Nurse License, and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board, shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent. This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board.
- 13. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a Registered Nurse, as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.
- 14. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board both his pocket license and wall certificate, if one was issued, on or before the effective date of the Decision

See: 11

and Order.

15. Respondent fully understands and agrees that if he ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 2012-344 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.

- 16. Upon reinstatement of the license by the Board, Respondent shall pay to the Board costs associated with its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the amount of \$8574.00 which is the amount currently owed pursuant to Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order No. 2012-344 (Exhibit A). If the reinstatement of Respondent's license is granted, Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board.
- 17. Respondent shall not apply for licensure or petition for reinstatement for 2 year from the effective date of the Board of Registered Nursing's Decision and Order.

ACCEPTANCE-

I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Registered Nurse License, Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Practitioner Furnishing Certificates. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Registered Nursing.

DATED: 10/9/12

ALEX WILLIAMS Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully accepted by Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., R.N. (Complainant) is the Executive Officer for the Board of Registered Nursing.

DATED: OCTOBER 26, 2012.

Louise K. Bailey, A. Ed, RW

Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., R.N. Executive Officer

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

ALEX WILLIAMS 605 Front Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Registered Nurse License No. 524009

Case No. 2012- 344

OAH No. 2011120971

Respondent

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on September 21, 2012.

IT IS SO ORDERED August 24, 2012.

Raymond Mallel, President

Board of Registered Nursing

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

. 1	Kamala D. Harris		
2	Attorney General of California FRANK H. PACOE		
	Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
3	CHAR SACHSON Deputy Attorney General		
4	State Bar No. 161032		
5	455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004		
6	Telephone: (415) 703-5558 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480		
	Attorneys for Complainant		
7	BEFORE THE		
8	BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING		
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10			
	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 2012-344		
11	ALEX WILLIAMS OAH No. 2011120971		
12	605 Front Street		
. 13	Santa Cruz, CA 95060 STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER		
14	Registered Nurse License No. 524009		
15	Respondent.		
1			
16	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-		
17	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
1.8	<u>PARTIES</u>		
19	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) is the Interim Executive Officer of the		
20	Board of Registered Nursing. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is		
21	represented in this matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by		
22	Char Sachson, Deputy Attorney General.		
23 -	2. Respondent Alex Williams (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorne		
24	Mark Cohen, whose address is: U.S. Bank Building, 39510 Paseo Padre Parkway, Suite 190,		
25	Fremont, CA 94538-4716.		
26	3. On or about July 23, 1996, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered Nurse		
27	License No. 524009 to Alex Williams (Respondent). The Registered Nurse License was in full		

BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

ALEX WILLIAMS 605 Front Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Registered Nurse License No. 524009

Respondent

Case No. 2012- 344

OAH No. 2011120971

DECISION AND ORDER

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This Decision shall become effective on September 21, 2012.

IT IS SO ORDERED August 24, 2012.

Raymond Mallel, President

Board of Registered Nursing

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

1	Kamala D. Harris			
2	Attorney General of California FRANK H. PACOE			
_	Supervising Deputy Attorney General			
3	CHAR SACHSON Deputy Attorney General			
4	State Bar No. 161032			
5	455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004			
(Telephone: (415) 703-5558			
. 6	Facsimile: (415) 703-5480 Attorneys for Complainant			
7				
8.	BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING			
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS			
10	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 2012-344			
	ALEX WILLIAMS OAH No. 2011120971			
12.	605 Front Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060 STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND			
13	DISCIPLINARY ORDER			
14	Registered Nurse License No. 524009			
15	Respondent.			
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19	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) is the Interim Executive Officer of the			
20	Board of Registered Nursing. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is			
21	represented in this matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by			
22	Char Sachson, Deputy Attorney General.			
23 :	2. Respondent Alex Williams (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorne			
24	Mark Cohen, whose address is: U.S. Bank Building, 39510 Paseo Padre Parkway, Suite 190,			
25	Fremont, CA 94538-4716.			
26	3. On or about July 23, 1996, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered Nurse			
27	License No. 524009 to Alex Williams (Respondent). The Registered Nurse License was in full			
28				

force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 2012-344 and will expire on September 30, 2013, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 4. Accusation No. 2012-344 was filed before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on December 6, 2011. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 2012-344 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2012-344. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 2012-344.
- 10. Respondent agrees that his Registered Nurse License is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CIRCUMSTANCES IN MITIGATION

11. Respondent Alex Williams has never been the subject of any disciplinary action. He is admitting responsibility at an early stage in the proceedings.

CONTINGENCY

- 12. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Registered Nursing. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Registered Nursing may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 13. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 14. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 15. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

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DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. 524009 issued to Respondent Alex Williams (Respondent) is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions.

Severability Clause. Each condition of probation contained herein is a separate and distinct condition. If any condition of this Order, or any application thereof, is declared unenforceable in whole, in part, or to any extent, the remainder of this Order, and all other applications thereof, shall not be affected. Each condition of this Order shall separately be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

1. **Obey All Laws.** Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws. A full and detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by Respondent to the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence. To permit monitoring of compliance with this condition, Respondent shall submit completed fingerprint forms and fingerprint fees within 45 days of the effective date of the decision, unless previously submitted as part of the licensure application process.

Criminal Court Orders: If Respondent is under criminal court orders, including probation or parole, and the order is violated, this shall be deemed a violation of these probation conditions, and may result in the filing of an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation.

2. Comply with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall fully comply with the conditions of the Probation Program established by the Board and cooperate with representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of the Respondent's compliance with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall inform the Board in writing within no more than 15 days of any address change and shall at all times maintain an active, current license status with the Board, including during any period of suspension.

Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license shall be fully restored.

- 3. **Report in Person.** Respondent, during the period of probation, shall appear in person at interviews/meetings as directed by the Board or its designated representatives.
 - 4. Residency, Practice, or Licensure Outside of State. Periods of residency or

 practice as a registered nurse outside of California shall not apply toward a reduction of this probation time period. Respondent's probation is tolled, if and when he resides outside of California. Respondent must provide written notice to the Board within 15 days of any change of residency or practice outside the state, and within 30 days prior to re-establishing residency or returning to practice in this state.

Respondent shall provide a list of all states and territories where he has ever been licensed as a registered nurse, vocational nurse, or practical nurse. Respondent shall further provide information regarding the status of each license and any changes in such license status during the term of probation. Respondent shall inform the Board if he applies for or obtains a new nursing license during the term of probation.

5. Submit Written Reports. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall submit or cause to be submitted such written reports/declarations and verification of actions under penalty of perjury, as required by the Board. These reports/declarations shall contain statements relative to Respondent's compliance with all the conditions of the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall immediately execute all release of information forms as may be required by the Board or its representatives.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to the nursing regulatory agency in every state and territory in which he has a registered nurse license.

6. Function as a Registered Nurse. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall engage in the practice of registered nursing in California for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

For purposes of compliance with the section, "engage in the practice of registered nursing" may include, when approved by the Board, volunteer work as a registered nurse, or work in any non-direct patient care position that requires licensure as a registered nurse.

The Board may require that advanced practice nurses engage in advanced practice nursing for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of his good faith efforts to comply with this

condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation shall apply.

7. **Employment Approval and Reporting Requirements.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before commencing or continuing any employment, paid or voluntary, as a registered nurse. Respondent shall cause to be submitted to the Board all performance evaluations and other employment related reports as a registered nurse upon request of the Board.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to his employer and immediate supervisors prior to commencement of any nursing or other health care related employment.

In addition to the above, Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after he obtains any nursing or other health care related employment. Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after he is terminated or separated, regardless of cause, from any nursing, or other health care related employment with a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the termination or separation.

8. **Supervision.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board regarding Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration before commencing or continuing any employment as a registered nurse, or education and training that includes patient care.

Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a registered nurse in good standing (no current discipline) with the Board of Registered Nursing, unless alternative methods of supervision and/or collaboration (e.g., with an advanced practice nurse or physician) are approved.

Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration may include, but is not limited to the following:

- (a) Maximum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is present in the patient care area or in any other work setting at all times.
 - (b) Moderate The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is in the patient

care unit or in any other work setting at least half the hours Respondent works.

- (c) Minimum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration has person-toperson communication with Respondent at least twice during each shift worked.
- (d) Home Health Care If Respondent is approved to work in the home health care setting, the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall have person-to-person communication with Respondent as required by the Board each work day. Respondent shall maintain telephone or other telecommunication contact with the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration as required by the Board during each work day. The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall conduct, as required by the Board, periodic, on-site visits to patients' homes visited by Respondent with or without Respondent present.
- 9. **Employment Limitations.** Respondent shall not work for a nurse's registry, in any private duty position as a registered nurse, a temporary nurse placement agency, a traveling nurse, or for an in-house nursing pool.

Respondent shall not work for a licensed home health agency as a visiting nurse unless the registered nursing supervision and other protections for home visits have been approved by the Board. Respondent shall not work in any other registered nursing occupation where home visits are required.

Respondent shall not work in any health care setting as a supervisor of registered nurses.

The Board may additionally restrict Respondent from supervising licensed vocational nurses and/or unlicensed assistive personnel on a case-by-case basis.

Respondent shall not work as a faculty member in an approved school of nursing or as an instructor in a Board approved continuing education program.

Respondent shall work only on a regularly assigned, identified and predetermined worksite(s) and shall not work in a float capacity.

If Respondent is working or intends to work in excess of 40 hours per week, the Board may request documentation to determine whether there should be restrictions on the hours of work.

10. Complete a Nursing Course(s). Respondent, at his own expense, shall enroll and successfully complete a course(s) relevant to the practice of registered nursing no later than six

months prior to the end of his probationary term.

Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before enrolling in the course(s). Respondent shall submit to the Board the original transcripts or certificates of completion for the above required course(s). The Board shall return the original documents to Respondent after photocopying them for its records.

11. **Cost Recovery.** Respondent shall pay to the Board costs associated with its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the amount of \$8,574.00. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board, with payments to be completed no later than three months prior to the end of the probation term.

If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of his good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation will apply.

12. Violation of Probation. If Respondent violates the conditions of his probation, the Board after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may set aside the stay order and impose the stayed discipline (revocation/suspension) of Respondent's license.

If during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to revoke probation has been filed against Respondent's license or the Attorney General's Office has been requested to prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation against Respondent's license, the probationary period shall automatically be extended and shall not expire until the accusation or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

13. License Surrender. During Respondent's term of probation, if he ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the conditions of probation, Respondent may surrender his license to the Board. The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant the request, or to take any

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other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances, without further hearing.

Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license and wall certificate, Respondent will no longer be subject to the conditions of probation.

Surrender of Respondent's license shall be considered a disciplinary action and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board. A registered nurse whose license has been surrendered may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than the following minimum periods from the effective date of the disciplinary decision:

- (1) Two years for reinstatement of a license that was surrendered for any reason other than a mental or physical illness; or
 - (2) One year for a license surrendered for a mental or physical illness.
- 14. **Physical Examination.** Within 45 days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent, at his expense, shall have a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, who is approved by the Board before the assessment is performed, submit an assessment of the Respondent's physical condition and capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. Such an assessment shall be submitted in a format acceptable to the Board. If medically determined, a recommended treatment program will be instituted and followed by the Respondent with the physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant providing written reports to the Board on forms provided by the Board.

If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant making this determination shall immediately notify the Board and Respondent by telephone, and the Board shall request that the Attorney General's office prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation. Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. During this period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required until the Board has notified Respondent that a medical determination permits Respondent to resume practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to have the above assessment submitted to the Board within the 45-day

requirement, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period. The Board may waive or postpone this suspension only if significant, documented evidence of mitigation is provided. Such evidence must establish good faith efforts by Respondent to obtain the assessment, and a specific date for compliance must be provided. Only one such waiver or extension may be permitted.

15. Participate in Treatment/Rehabilitation Program for Chemical Dependence.

Respondent, at his expense, shall successfully complete during the probationary period or shall have successfully completed prior to commencement of probation a Board-approved treatment/rehabilitation program of at least six months duration. As required, reports shall be submitted by the program on forms provided by the Board. If Respondent has not completed a Board-approved treatment/rehabilitation program prior to commencement of probation,

Respondent, within 45 days from the effective date of the decision, shall be enrolled in a program. If a program is not successfully completed within the first nine months of probation, the Board shall consider Respondent in violation of probation.

Based on Board recommendation, each week Respondent shall be required to attend at least one, but no more than five 12-step recovery meetings or equivalent (e.g., Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, etc.) and a nurse support group as approved and directed by the Board. If a nurse support group is not available, an additional 12-step meeting or equivalent shall be added. Respondent shall submit dated and signed documentation confirming such attendance to the Board during the entire period of probation. Respondent shall continue with the recovery plan recommended by the treatment/rehabilitation program or a licensed mental health examiner and/or other ongoing recovery groups.

16. Abstain from Use of Psychotropic (Mood-Altering) Drugs. Respondent shall completely abstain from the possession, injection or consumption by any route of <u>all controlled substances</u> and all psychotropic (mood altering) drugs, including alcohol, except when the same are ordered by a health care professional legally authorized to do so as part of documented medical treatment. Respondent shall have sent to the Board, in writing and within fourteen (14)

days, by the prescribing health professional, a report identifying the medication, dosage, the date the medication was prescribed, the Respondent's prognosis, the date the medication will no longer be required, and the effect on the recovery plan, if appropriate.

Respondent shall identify for the Board a single physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant who shall be aware of Respondent's history of substance abuse and will coordinate and monitor any prescriptions for Respondent for dangerous drugs, controlled substances or moodaltering drugs. The coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant shall report to the Board on a quarterly basis Respondent's compliance with this condition. If any substances considered addictive have been prescribed, the report shall identify a program for the time limited use of any such substances.

The Board may require the single coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant to be a specialist in addictive medicine, or to consult with a specialist in addictive medicine.

17. Submit to Tests and Samples. Respondent, at his expense, shall participate in a random, biological fluid testing or a drug screening program which the Board approves. The length of time and frequency will be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent is responsible for keeping the Board informed of Respondent's current telephone number at all times. Respondent shall also ensure that messages may be left at the telephone number when he is not available and ensure that reports are submitted directly by the testing agency to the Board, as directed. Any confirmed positive finding shall be reported immediately to the Board by the program and Respondent shall be considered in violation of probation.

In addition, Respondent, at any time during the period of probation, shall fully cooperate with the Board or any of its representatives, and shall, when requested, submit to such tests and samples as the Board or its representatives may require for the detection of alcohol, narcotics, hypnotics, dangerous drugs, or other controlled substances.

If Respondent has a positive drug screen for any substance not legally authorized and not reported to the coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, and the Board files a petition to revoke probation or an accusation, the Board may suspend Respondent from

practice pending the final decision on the petition to revoke probation or the accusation. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to participate in a random, biological fluid testing or drug screening program within the specified time frame, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. After taking into account documented evidence of mitigation, if the Board files a petition to revoke probation or an accusation, the Board may suspend Respondent from practice pending the final decision on the petition to revoke probation or the accusation. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

18. **Mental Health Examination.** Respondent shall, within 45 days of the effective date of this Decision, have a mental health examination including psychological testing as appropriate to determine his capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. The examination will be performed by a psychiatrist, psychologist or other licensed mental health practitioner approved by the Board. The examining mental health practitioner will submit a written report of that assessment and recommendations to the Board. All costs are the responsibility of Respondent. Recommendations for treatment, therapy or counseling made as a result of the mental health examination will be instituted and followed by Respondent.

If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the licensed mental health care practitioner making this determination shall immediately notify the Board and Respondent by telephone, and the Board shall request that the Attorney General's office prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation. Respondent shall immediately cease practice and may not resume practice until notified by the Board. During this period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required, until the Board has notified Respondent that a mental health determination permits Respondent to resume practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to have the above assessment submitted to the Board within the 45-day requirement, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until

notified by the Board. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period. The Board may waive or postpone this suspension only if significant, documented evidence of mitigation is provided. Such evidence must establish good faith efforts by Respondent to obtain the assessment, and a specific date for compliance must be provided. Only one such waiver or extension may be permitted.

- Therapy or Counseling Program. Respondent, at his expense, shall participate in an on-going counseling program until such time as the Board releases him from this requirement and only upon the recommendation of the counselor. Written progress reports from the counselor will be required at various intervals.
- Physical Examination. Within 45 days of the effective date of this decision, respondent, at his/her expense, shall have a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, who is approved by the Board before the assessment is performed, submit an assessment of the respondent's physical condition and capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. Such an assessment shall be submitted in a format acceptable to the Board. If medically determined, a recommended treatment program will be instituted and followed by the respondent with the physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant providing written reports on forms provided by the Board.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Mark Cohen. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Registered Nurse License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Registered Nursing.

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Respondent

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1	I have read and fully discussed v	with Respondent Alex Williams the terms and conditions
2	and other matters contained in the above	ve Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve
3	its form and content.	
.4	DATED: 6-11-17-	A Commence of the Commence of
5		Mark Cohen Attorney for Respondent
		Attorney for Respondent
6		ENDORSEMENT
7	70) . C	
8		nent and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully
9		ard of Registered Nursing of the Department of Consumer
10	Affairs.	
41	Dated: 6 11 17	Respectfully submitted,
12	Dated.	Kamala D. Harris
13	·	Attorney General of California FRANK H. PACOE
14		Supervising Deputy Attorney General
15		
16		Char Sachson
17		Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant
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27	Marina.	
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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 2012-344

1	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California			
2	FRANK H. PACOE Supervising Deputy Attorney General			
3	CHAR SACHSON Deputy Attorney General			
4	State Bar No. 161032 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000			
5	San Francisco, CA 94102-7004 Telephone: (415) 703-5558			
. 6	Facsimile: (415) 703-5480			
7	Attorneys for Complainant	O.D. MIXTO		
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING			
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
10				
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No.		
12	ALEX WILLIAMS, A.K.A. ALEX RALPH	ACCUSATION 2012-344		
13	WILLIAMS 605 Front Street			
14	Santa Cruz, CA 95060			
15	Registered Nurse License No. 524009			
16	Respondent.			
17		1 		
18	Complainant alleges:			
	PAR	TIES		
19	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Comp	lainant) brings this Accusation solely in her		
20	official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of			
21	Consumer Affairs.			
22	2. On or about July 23, 1996, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered Nurse			
23	License Number 524009 to Alex Williams, a.k.a. Alex Ralph Williams (Respondent). The			
24	Registered Nurse License will expire on on September 30, 2013, unless renewed.			
25	JURISDICTION			
26	3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board),			
27	Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section			
28	Department of Consumer Arrans, under the auth	officy of the following laws. All section		

references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

- 4. Section 2750 of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.
 - 5. Section 2761 of the Code states:

"The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

- "(a) Unprofessional conduct, . . . "
- 6. Section 2762 of the Code states:

"In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act], it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

- "(a) Obtain or possess in violation of law, or prescribe, or except as directed by a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, or podiatrist administer to himself or herself, or furnish or administer to another, any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022.
- "(b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that such use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.
- "(c) Be convicted of a criminal offense involving the prescription, consumption, or self-administration of any of the substances described in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this section, or the possession of, or falsification of a record pertaining to, the substances described in subdivision (a) of this section, in which event the record of the conviction is conclusive evidence thereof.

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- "(d) Be committed or confined by a court of competent jurisdiction for intemperate use of or addiction to the use of any of the substances described in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this section, in which event the court order of commitment or confinement is prima facie evidence of such commitment or confinement.
- "(e) Falsify, or make grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent, or unintelligible entries in any hospital, patient, or other record pertaining to the substances described in subdivision (a) of this section."
- 7. Section 2764 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license.
- 8. Code section 4060 provides, in pertinent part, that no person shall possess any controlled substance, except that furnished upon a valid prescription/drug order.
- 9. Health and Safety Code section 11173(a) states, in pertinent part, that no person shall obtain or attempt to obtain controlled substances, or procure or attempt to procure the administration of or prescription for controlled substances by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation or subterfuge.
- 10. Health and Safety Code section 11170 provides that no person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish a controlled substance for himself or herself.
- 11. Health and Safety Code section 11377, in pertinent part, makes it unlawful to possess any controlled substance in Schedule II, subdivision (d), without a prescription.
- 12. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.

COST RECOVERY

13. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

- 14. Ativan is a brand of Lorazepam, a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11057(d)(13) and is a dangerous drug per Code section 4022. It is a benzodiazepine, muscle relaxant and anti-convulsant.
- 15. Dilaudid is a brand of hydromorphone hydrochloride, a Schedule II controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11055(b) and a dangerous drug as designated by Business and Professions Code section 4022, used for pain relief.
- 16. Morphine is a Schedule II controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11055(b)(1)(M), and a dangerous drug as designated by Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used to treat moderate to severe pain.
- 17. Norco is the brand name for a compound of acetaminophen and hydrocodone bitartrate, a Schedule III controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11056(e)(4) and a dangerous drug as designated by Business and Professions Code section 4022, used for pain relief.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(FORGERY OF PRESCRIPTIONS)

18. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 2761(a), 2762(a), 2762(b) and/or 2762(e) in that Respondent forged prescriptions for Norco. The circumstances are that on January 8, 2010 and again on February 10, 2010, Respondent, an employee of Watsonville Community Hospital in Watsonville, California, forged prescriptions for Norco, and presented them to Nob Hill Pharmacy located at 777 1st Street, Santa Cruz, California. The prescriptions listed the prescribers as Watsonville Community Hospital physicians, and listed the patient as "Brian Brewster," a pseudonym for Respondent. Respondent was arrested by Gilroy Police on March 6, 2010.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(ILLEGALLY OBTAIN OR POSSESS CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES)

19. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 2762(a), and/or section 4060, and Health and Safety Code sections 11377 and/or 11173(a) in that while on duty as

a registered nurse at Watsonville Community Hospital in Watsonville, California, Respondent illegally obtained and/or possessed controlled substances as follows:

- 20. <u>Patient 1.</u> On or about December 5, 2009 at 11:51, Respondent withdrew 4 mg of morphine for Patient 1 from the hospital Pyxis¹. Respondent failed to document administration or disposition of the morphine.
- 21. Patient 2. On or about December 28, 2009 at 22:08, Respondent withdrew 2 mg of Dilaudid from the hospital Pyxis. Respondent administered .5 mg of the Dilaudid to Patient 2, but failed to document administration or disposition of the remaining 1.5 mg of the Dilaudid. Further, Patient 2 had no orders to receive Dilaudid.
- 22. <u>Patient 2</u>. On or about December 28, 2009 at 22:09, Respondent withdrew 2 mg of Ativan from the hospital Pyxis. Respondent failed to document administration or disposition of the Ativan.
- 23. <u>Patient 3</u>. On or about January 11, 2010 at 18:05, Respondent withdrew 2 mg of Dilaudid from the hospital Pyxis. Respondent failed to document administration or disposition of the Dilaudid. Further, Patient 3 had no orders to receive Dilaudid.
- 24. Patient 3. On or about January 11, 2010 at 19:32, Respondent withdrew 2 mg of Dilaudid from the hospital Pyxis. Respondent documented wastage of 1 mg of the Dilaudid but failed to document administration or disposition of the remaining 1 mg of Dilaudid.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(FALSIFY, OR MAKE GROSSLY INCORRECT, GROSSLY INCONSISTENT, OR UNINTELLIGIBLE ENTRIES IN ANY PATIENT RECORD)

25. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 2762(e), in that while on duty as a registered nurse at Watsonville Community Hospital in Watsonville, California, Respondent falsified, made grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent, or unintelligible entries in hospital and patient records, as alleged above in paragraphs 19 through 24.

Pyxis is a hospital computerized medication storage system.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT)

26. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761(a) in that he acted unprofessionally as alleged above in paragraphs 19 through 24.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 524009, issued to Alex Williams, a.k.a. Alex Ralph Williams;
- 2. Ordering Alex Williams a.k.a. Alex Ralph Williams to pay the Board of Registered Nursing the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3;
 - 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: December 06, 2011

VOUISE R. BAILEY, M.ED., RN

Executive Officer

Board of Registered Nursing

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant

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